

[INK STORAGE UNIT]

Abstract

An ink storage unit comprises an ink tank that defines an inner confinement space in which is placed an ink storage body to store and retain ink. The ink tank includes an air inlet through which air passage in the ink tank is enabled, and an ink outlet through which ink output is achieved. An outer surface of the ink storage body includes a plurality of notches distributed along an interface between the ink storage body and the ink tank, thereby forming a plurality of gaps that locally separate the outer surface of the ink storage body from the sidewall of the ink tank. Alternatively, the ink storage body is comprised of a first ink storage portion that is separated from a second ink storage portion via a spacing member. Ink flowing and leakage through the air inlet is thereby prevented.